

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03880 181342Z

45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01

OMB-01 ACDA-19 IO-13 RSR-01 /121 W

----- 123191

P R 181230Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1211

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3230

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 3880

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: AUGUST 17 SPC MEETING: BASIC CHARACTER OF ALLIANCE  
APPROACH

BEGIN SUMMARY: AUGUST 17 SPC MEETING GOT OFF TO DIFFERENT START  
WITH CONTINUING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ALLIES  
OVER CHARACTER OF OPENING PROPOSAL. U.S. ARGUED THAT MOST OF  
THESE CONCERNS WERE QUESTIONS OF NEGOTIATING STRATEGY RATHER THAN  
SUBSTANTIVE POSITION. CHAIRMAN KASTL VIEWED DIFFERENCES AS PARTLY  
A MATTER OF TERMINOLOGY AND MADE USEFUL SUGGESTION, SUPPORTED BY  
ALL (U.S. AD REF), THAT SECTION II OF SPC MANDATE BE REVISED  
TO READ "ALLIED POSITION" (IN LIEU OF "NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL") AND  
THAT DIFFERENT ALLIED POINTS OF VIEW ON AN OPENING PROPOSAL BE  
COVERED UNDER SECTION III, "NEGOTIATING STRATEGY". COMMITTEE ALSO  
COMPLETED REVIEW OF U.S., BELGIAN AND THE UK PAPERS, AND INTERNATIONAL

STAFF WILL NOW PREPARE INITIAL DRAFT OF SECTIONS II AND III,  
WHICH SPC WILL REVIEW ON AUGUST 22 AND FORWARD TO CAPITALS  
IN ORDER TO HAVE CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION AUGUST 28 AND 29. END  
SUMMARY.

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 03880 181342Z

1. AS AGREED AT AUGUST 16 MEETING (SEPTTEL), COMMITTEE OPENED  
BY DISCUSSION OF U.S., UK, AND BELGIAN SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS.  
DISCUSSION QUICKLY RETURNED, HOWEVER, TO CENTRAL QUESTION OF  
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF PAPER WHICH COMMITTEE WAS PREPARING ON

MBFR APPROACH. FRG AND UK REITERATED CONCERN THAT THE U.S. APPROACH WAS TOO OPEN-ENDED. FRG TOOK U.S. JULY 27 PAPER TO TASK FOR IMPRECISE USE OF KEY TERMS SUCH AS "POSITION," "PROPOSAL", "APPROACH", AND "PRESENTATION". U.S. REP REPEATED VIEW THAT OUR PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE WAS TO TABLE FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL EARLY IN NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT WE WERE CONCERNED OVER THE DRAFTING OF FALLBACK POSITIONS AT THIS STAGE. HE BELIEVED THAT SOME OF THE PRESENT DIFFERENCES WERE OVER TERMINOLOGY AND THAT MOST OF THE SUGGESTIONS MADE THUS FAR FOR AN OPENING PROPOSAL COULD BE COVERED UNDER NEGOTIATING STRATEGY.

2. CHAIRMAN KASTL ALSO CONSIDERED THAT SOME OF THE DIFFERENCES OVER THE CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF THE SPC REPORT WERE SEMANTIC, PARTICULARLY DIFFERENCES OVER WHAT WAS MEANT BY "POSITION," AND "PROPOSAL". HE THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE PROCEED WITH ITS WORK ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A) SECTION II OF THE SPC MANDATE ("NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL") WOULD BE RETITLED "ALLIED POSITION". THIS WOULD BE THE SUBSTANTIVE POSITION WHICH ALLIED NEGOTIATORS WOULD SEEK TO ACHIEVE DURING THE FIRST MONTHS OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. AT A CERTAIN POINT IN TIME, WHEN THIS POSITION HAD BEEN FULLY EXPLORED WITH THE OTHER SIDE, THE ALLIES WOULD PRESUMABLY WISH TO REVIEW THIS POSITION IN THE COUNCIL TO DETERMINE IF ANY ADJUSTMENTS NEEDED TO BE MADE. (UNDER THIS HEADING, THE COMMITTEE WOULD CONSIDER THE U.S. JULY 27 PAPER AND SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS BY OTHER ALLIES).

B) SECTION III OF THE SPC MANDATE, "NEGOTIATING STRATEGY", WOULD BE THE PLACE WHERE THE ALLIES WOULD EXPRESS THEIR DIFFERENT VIEWS ON THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE ACCEPTANCE OF THIS POSITION. THIS SECTION WILL CONTAIN INTER ALIA FOR EXAMPLE, THE DIFFERENT VIEWS CONTAINED THUS FAR ON THE CHARACTER OF AN OPENING PROPOSAL. THE U.S., FOR EXAMPLE, MIGHT WISH TO STATE THAT ITS OPENING PROPOSAL IS SYNONYMOUS WITH SECTION II, ALLIED POSITION, WHILE THE FRG, AND THE UK AND BELGIUM MIGHT OFFER ALTERNATIVE OPENING PROPOSALS.

3. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, THE U.S. REP AGREED TO REFER THIS SUGGESTION TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSIDERATION AND OTHER DELEGATIONS AGREED TO ACCEPT IT.

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 03880 181342Z

4. THE COMMITTEE THEN COMPLETED ITS INITIAL REVIEW OF THE U.S., BELGIAN AND UK PAPERS. THE BELGIAN AND DUTCH REPS DIAGREED WITH UK SUGGESTION THAT WITHDRAWN SOVIET FORCES SHOULD BE DISBANDED SINCE THEY DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD ACCEPT THIS OR THAT IT COULD BE VERIFIABLE. DUTCH AND CANADIAN REPS NOTED THAT TWO OF THE PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES PROPOSED IN THE U.S. PAPER ARE IDENTICAL TO CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES IN CSCE AND THUS COULD BE DROPPED. BELGIAN REP REPLIED THAT THESE MEASURES WERE INTENDED TO BE OBLIGATORY AND NOT VOLUNTARY, AS IN THE CSCE CONTEXT, AND WOULD LIKELY BE FAR MORE PRECISE. FRG EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. PROPOSALS ON STABILIZING MEASURES TO ACCOMPANY REDUCTIONS, NON-CIRCUMVENTION PROVISIONS, AND VERIFICATION, BUT BELIEVED THAT THESE SHOULD BE STUDIED

FURTHER IN THE MBFR WORKING GROUP. HE ALSO REITERATED BONN'S STRONG INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING A CLEAR LINK BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND PHASE OF REDUCTION.

5. COMMITTEE AGREED THAT INTERNATIONAL STAFF SHOULD NOW PREPARE AN INITIAL DRAFT OF SECTION II ("ALLIED POSITION") AND SECTION III ("NEGOTIATING STRATEGY"). KASTL SAID THAT DRAFT WOULD BE AVAILABLE ON AUGUST 22 BEFORE FORWARDING IT TO CAPITALS. HE SCHEDULED COMMITTEE'S FIRST INSTRUCTED DISCUSSION ON PAPER FOR AUGUST 28 AND 29.

6. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT KASTL'S PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF SPC PAPER IS A USEFUL APPROACH WHICH GETS COMMITTEE OUT OF PRESENT DIFFICULTIES OVER CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK. IT WILL HELP ALLIES TO REACH EARLY AGREEMENT ON SUBSTANTIVE POSITION PROPOSED IN JULY 27 PAPER AND RELEGATES VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS FOR AN "OPENING PROPOSAL" TO THE CATEGORY OF NEGOTIATING STRATEGY. IT WILL ALSO HELP TO ELIMINATE SOME OF THE SEMANTIC CONFUSION OVER "POSITION", "PROPOSAL", ETC. WE WILL CONTINUE TO RESERVE OUR POSITION, HOWEVER, ON KASTL'S PROPOSED FORMAT, UNTIL WASHINGTON HAS HAD A CHANCE TO REVIEW THE I.S. DRAFT WHICH SHOULD BE AVAILABLE EARLY NEXT WEEK.  
RUMSFELD

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 02 APR 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** hilburpw  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973NATO03880  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730868/abqcebqk.tel  
**Line Count:** 133  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hilburpw  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <19-Sep-2001 by hilburpw>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MBFR: AUGUST 17 SPC MEETING: BASIC CHARACTER OF ALLIANCE APPROACH  
**TAGS:** PARM, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005